

LISTING OF CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A non-newtonian jelly composition suitable for use in optical fiber cable manufacture comprising:
 - a. a synthetic oil of lubricating viscosity,
 - b. a fumed silica,
 - c. an antioxidant, and
 - d. a coupling agent.
2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica is hydrophobic or hydrophilic.
3. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica is hydrophilic and the composition is substantially free of hydrophobic silica.
4. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica has an average primary particle size ranging from 5-30 nm.
5. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica has an average specific BET surface of 150-400 m²/g.
6. (Original) The lubricating composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica is present from 1 to 10% by weight.
7. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the fumed silica is present from 2-6% by weight.
8. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the preferred synthetic oil is chosen from a group of polydecenes, polyisoprenes, polyisobutenes, and polybutenes.
9. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the synthetic oil comprises at least 85% of the composition by weight.

10. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the synthetic oil is a mixture of at least two oils chosen from the group of polydecenes and polybutenes.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the coupling agent is a chemical with at least one hydrogen bonding site.
12. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the coupling agent is a polyglycol.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 wherein the polyglycol has a number average MW of at least 1000.
14. (Original) The composition on claim 1 comprising an antioxidant.
15. (Original) The lubricant composition of claim 1 wherein the antioxidant is a hindered phenol antioxidant.
16. (Original) The lubricant composition of claim 16 wherein the antioxidant is present from 0.1 to 2% by weight.
17. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the synthetic oils are a mixture of polydecene and polybutene, the silica is hydrophilic and the coupling agent is a polyglycol.
18. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 where the polybutene has a number average MW of less than 2000.
19. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 wherein the preferred amount of polybutene used is at least 40% by weight of the total formulation.
20. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 wherein the polyglycol has a number average molecular weight of 2000.
21. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 where the preferred composition comprises a mixture of polydecene and polybutene in a ratio of 1:1.
22. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 wherein the preferred composition comprises a hydrophilic silica with a surface area of at least 150 m²/g.
23. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~49~~ 17 wherein the hydrophilic silica has a surface area of greater than 250 m²/g.

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Claims 24 to 33 (canceled).